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Commission on the Status of Women
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Agenda item 3 (a)
Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century": review of gender mainstreaming in organizations of the United Nations system

Australia,* Austria,* Azerbaijan, Bangladesh,* Belgium, Benin, Brazil, Bulgaria,* Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, China, Croatia, Czech Republic,* Democratic Republic of the Congo,* Denmark, Dominican Republic, Finland,* France,* Germany, Greece,* Guatemala, Hungary,* Iceland,* India, Indonesia, Ireland,* Italy,* Japan, Latvia,* Liechtenstein,* Luxembourg,* Mali,* Malta,* Mexico,* Netherlands, New Zealand,* Nigeria, Norway,* Peru, Poland,* Portugal,* Republic of Korea, Senegal,* Slovakia,* Slovenia,* Spain,* Sweden,* Switzerland,* Thailand, Timor-Leste,* Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania and United States of America: draft resolution

Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling its resolutions 45/2 of 17 March 2001, 46/3 of 15 March 2002 and 47/2 of 13 March 2003, Economic and Social Council resolutions 2001/41 of 26 July 2001, 2002/23 of 24 July 2002 and 2003/49 of 24 July 2003 and General Assembly resolutions 56/132 of 19 December 2001, 57/182 of 18 December 2002, 57/300 of 20 December 2002 and 58/148 of 22 December 2003,

Welcoming the United Nations Millennium Declaration[1] and its call for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women,

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* In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedue of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

[1] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

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Welcoming also the inclusion of a sub-item in the agenda of the Economic and Social Council entitled "Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes of the United Nations system", and the opportunity such inclusion provides to consider further measures to strengthen the implementation and monitoring of gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system,

Welcoming further the decision of the Economic and Social Council to devote a coordination segment in 2004 to a review and appraisal of the system-wide implementation of its agreed conclusions 1997/2 on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes of the United Nations system,[2]

Reaffirming that gender mainstreaming is a globally accepted strategy for promoting gender equality, which requires making women's as well as men's concerns and experiences an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and societal spheres so that women and men benefit equally and inequality is not perpetuated,

Reaffirming also that gender mainstreaming constitutes a critical strategy in the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action[3] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,[4]

Recognizing that enhancing women's opportunities, potential and activities requires a dual focus, namely, programmes aimed at meeting the basic as well as the specific needs of women for capacity-building, organizational development and empowerment, together with gender mainstreaming in all programme formulation and implementation activities,

Expressing its concern that gender equality is not yet fully integrated into the work of the United Nations,

Underlining the catalytic role of the Commission in promoting gender mainstreaming,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the measures taken and progress achieved in the follow-up to and implementation of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", especially in mainstreaming gender perspectives in entities of the United Nations system;[5]

2. *Also welcomes* the ongoing activities undertaken and efforts made by entities of the United Nations system to promote an active and visible policy of gender mainstreaming;

3. *Takes note with appreciation* of the assessment, as outlined in the report of the Secretary-General, of the remaining gaps in frameworks for gender equality policies and strategies and the mainstreaming of gender perspectives into all policies

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[2] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/52/3), chap. IV, para.4.

[3] See *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13).

[4] General Assembly resolutions S-23/2 and S-23/3.

[5] E/CN.6/2004/3.

and programmes of the entities of the United Nations, and of the role and effectiveness of existing institutional mechanisms;

4. *Expresses its concern* at the remaining constraints on the full implementation of gender mainstreaming into all policies and programmes of the United Nations system, including inadequate support for and follow-up of gender equality policies and strategies, poor utilization of gender analysis, inadequate monitoring mechanisms, and a number of ongoing critical institutional constraints;

5. *Invites* all entities of the United Nations system, in pursuit of governmental and intergovernmental commitments to gender mainstreaming and gender equality goals, to:

(a) Increase the exchange of experiences, good practice, tools and methods in respect of gender mainstreaming through, inter alia, the more effective utilization of existing networks, and, within existing mandates, to incorporate gender perspectives in inter-agency coordination in all areas;

(b) Link existing gender equality policies to organizational goals, develop and strengthen strategies and action plans to support the implementation of such policies, and assess the impact of such policies and strategies so that constraints on their full implementation may be identified and addressed;

(c) Integrate gender perspectives into organizational policies and sectoral policies and strategies, inter alia, through increased attention to gender perspectives in relevant medium-term plans and programme budgets;

(d) Increase the capacity for and better utilize gender analysis at both policy and programme levels, inter alia, through integrating gender perspectives more fully into existing analyses, mechanisms and tools, and improve mechanisms for monitoring and reporting on the practical implementation of the incorporation of gender perspectives into programmes;

(e) Ensure that gender specialists and focal points have access to information, adequate resources and explicit support from management at various levels, and strengthen the commitment and leadership role of managers in the gender mainstreaming process;

(f) Incorporate gender perspectives into all existing training programmes, assess the impact of such training programmes and develop strategies to improve their effectiveness where necessary, inter alia, through focusing resources on training specifically tailored to the needs of participants and on follow-up processes;

(g) Increase the involvement of men in promoting the implementation of gender mainstreaming, including as specialists, focal points and trainers;

(h) Require sex-disaggregation of all relevant data and the collection of gender-specific information as the basis for all policy analysis;

(i) Continue to support Governments in their efforts to implement gender mainstreaming;

6. *Recommends* to the Economic and Social Council that it incorporate into its review and appraisal of the system-wide implementation of its agreed conclusions 1997/2,[2] the assessment of the remaining gaps in the frameworks for gender equality policies and strategies and the mainstreaming of gender perspectives

into all policies and programmes of the entities of the United Nations, as outlined in the report of the Secretary-General;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include an assessment of the implementation of the present resolution in his report to the Commission at its forty-ninth session on the measures taken and progress achieved in the follow-up to and implementation of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", especially in mainstreaming gender perspectives in entities of the United Nations system.